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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/697,115	10/31/2003	Kenichi Shinozaki	244136US	8438
22850	7590	02/13/2007	EXAMINER	
OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			MARKOFF, ALEXANDER	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		1746		
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE		MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
3 MONTHS		02/13/2007	PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/697,115	SHINOZAKI ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Alexander Markoff	1746

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 November 2006.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-14 and 32-46 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-14 and 32-46 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-14 and 32-46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by WO 94/04313.

WO 94/04313 teaches an apparatus as claimed. The apparatus comprises a cleaning medium as claimed and devices as claimed. The apparatus is fully capable to perform all functions recited by the claims. See entire document, especially Figures 1, 3, 5 and description of cleaning mediums at pages 10-14.

3. Claims 1-14 and 32-46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by WO 82/0101844.

WO 82/0101844 teaches an apparatus as claimed. The apparatus comprises a cleaning medium as claimed and devices as claimed. See entire document, especially page 3, line 12 – page 8, line 13, page 9, line 12 – page 19 – line 6.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed 11/13/06 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The applicants amended the claims and allege that the rejection over WO 94/04313 is not proper. The applicants rely on the newly introduced limitation requiring cleaning of interior portions of the body to be cleaned.

This is not persuasive because the body to be cleaned is not defined by the claims. In the broadest interpretation of the claims the referenced body is readable on the part containing the cleaning medium. Moreover, at least at page 4, line 25 – page 5, line 9 the applied document teaches a tubular work-piece.

The applicants further allege that the applied document does not teach the newly introduced limitation of moving the cleaning medium with respect to the body by the magnetic force.

This is not persuasive because of the following: First, the claims are directed to an apparatus not to a method. The apparatus of the applied document comprises the claimed parts and thereby is capable of performing the claimed function or intended use. Moreover, The some of the claims (claim 1 and dependent) recite only a magnetic field generating device including means for generating a magnetic field **positioned** to apply a magnetic force and to move cleaning medium with respect to the body. The applied document teaches such. Second, the applied document teaches moving the medium by the magnetic field and teach moving the medium with respect to the body of the work-piece and rubbing the body. See at least page 7, line 2 – page 8, line 1, especially page 7, line 21 – page 8, line1.

The rejection is maintained.

It is noted that the applicants interpret the claims as requiring means for creating rubbing motion of the particles of the cleaning medium by application of magnetic field to the particles of the medium. While the examiner do not agree that the instant claims are limited to such concept and takes the position that WO 94/04313 teaches such, the rejection over WO 82/0101844 is added to meet the newly introduced limitations and the applicants' interpretation of the claims presented in the Remarks.

Conclusion

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alexander Markoff whose telephone number is 571-272-1304. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Barr can be reached on 571-272-1414. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Alexander Markoff
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1746

AM

PRIMARY EXAMINER

ALEXANDER MARKOFF
PRIMARY EXAMINER